

# FISCAL NOTE

**Bill #:** HB0357

**Title:** County courthouse restoration act

**Primary Sponsor:** Harris, C

**Status:** As Amended in House Committee

Sponsor signature	Date	Chuck Swysgood, Budget Director	Date
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## Fiscal Summary

	<b><u>FY 2004 Difference</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2005 Difference</u></b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
General Fund	\$72,000	\$0
<b>Revenue:</b>		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
<b>Net Impact on General Fund Balance:</b>	(\$72,000)	\$0

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov. Impact    | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 |

## Fiscal Analysis

### ASSUMPTIONS:

1. The historic preservation officer shall implement a county courthouse restoration and rehabilitation program.
2. At the request of a board of county commissioners, the historic preservation officer shall (1) evaluate the current condition of the county courthouse and determine whether restoration or rehabilitation is necessary or warranted; (2) estimate costs that may be associated with the restoration or rehabilitation activities. (3) provide technical assistance to the counties as requested; and (4) provide assistance to the counties in obtaining government and private sector grants and loans to assist counties in paying for courthouse restoration or rehabilitation projects.
3. In order to perform #1 and #2 above the historic preservation officer will contract with an historic architect.
4. The society projects that approximately 48 counties could request assistance as follows:
  - # of MT county seats/courthouses 56
  - # of historic (> 50 yrs old) county courthouses 48
  - # of historic courthouses for which a record currently exists 18
  - # of historic courthouses listed in the National Register 13
  - # of counties that will request assistance under Act unknown (est. 48)

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(continued)

5. A building condition assessment report would be prepared for each courthouse. In that report the building would be generally described, the major visible problems would be identified and illustrated, needs would be prioritized and potential solutions suggested, and generalized cost estimates derived. The cost for the implementation of the bill will be a range from \$3,000 to \$6,000 per building. An average of \$4,500 per building will be utilized for this fiscal note, for a total of \$72,000 per biennium. (48 courthouses \* \$4,500 average cost /3 biennia)
6. A biennial appropriation is requested for better management of the act.

FISCAL IMPACT:

<b>Montana Historical Society Program 06</b>	<b>FY 2004 <u>Difference</u></b>	<b>FY 2005 <u>Difference</u></b>
<u>Expenditures:</u>		
Operating Expenses	\$72,000	\$0
<u>Funding of Expenditures:</u>		
General Fund (01)	\$72,000	\$0
<u>Revenues:</u>		
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u>		
General Fund (01)	(\$72,000)	\$0

LONG-RANGE IMPACTS:

An estimated additional \$72,000 to \$75,000 of general fund in the 2007 and in the 2009 biennium will be needed to complete the program.

TECHNICAL NOTE:

1. The House Local Government Committee has amended the bill limiting the contract to \$72,000. Is the \$72,000 per year or for the biennium? If this bill passes, it is recommended that the appropriation be established as “ biennial one-time only” in House Bill 2.
2. A NPS defined Historic Structure Report (HSR) that provides research and information on all aspects of a historic building including historical significance, design and evolution; scaled drawings and recordation of existing appearance; and detailed condition analyses and reporting. Recommendations for specific treatments and cost estimating are not an assumption for this fiscal note. If this report is needed, the cost would be an addition of \$25,000 per building.